

REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment, new claims 35-48 are pending.

This preliminary amendment incorporates fourteen (14) new claims, the support for which is specified separately on the following pages, along with the status of all claims pending upon entry of this amendment.

Claims 35-38 were copied from U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0156274 A1.

Support for new claim 35 is found in the specification at column 9, line 62, through column 10, line 45; and column 21, lines 52-67.

Support for new claim 36 is found in the specification at column 10, lines 34-39; and column 21, lines 60-67.

Support for new claim 37 is found in the specification at column 7, lines 18-22.

Support for new claim 38 is found in the specification at column 7, lines 28-33.

Support for new claim 39 is found in the specification at column 10, lines 16-19; and column 21, lines 60-67.

New claims 40-48 parallel the amended claims filed May 6, 2003 in U.S. Serial No. 10/095,927.

Support for new claim 40 is found in the specification at column 10, lines 35-39.

Support for new claim 41 is found in the specification at column 7, lines 18-22.

Support for new claim 42 is found in the specification at column 9, line 62 through column 10, line 45; column 21, lines 52-67; and throughout the Background of the Invention section, including, for example, column 4, lines 48-51; and at column 4, lines 54-57.

Support for new claim 43 is found in the specification at column 10, lines 34-39 and column 21, lines 60-67.

Support for new claim 44 is found in the specification at column 7, lines 18-22.

Support for new claim 45 is found in the specification at column 7, lines 28-33.

Support for new claim 46 is found in the specification at column 10, lines 16-19 and column 21, lines 60-67.

Support for new claim 47 is found in the specification at column 10, lines 35-39.

Support for new claim 48 is found in the specification at column 7, lines 18-22.

Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

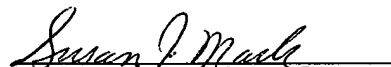
Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER


Susan J. Mack
Registration No. 30,951

Date: January 16, 2004